

## PROTECTION IS OFFERED FROM FOREST FIRES

Measures Are Available, and the  
Counties Are Urged to Take  
Advantage of Them.

### NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO AID

State Forester Has a Word to Say.  
County Supervisors Have All the  
Law Required to Come to Rescue.  
An Interesting Question.

Forest fires have been numerous, entirely too numerous, for several years past in all parts of Virginia, especially along the mountain sides. They have also been very numerous and destructive in the Southern belt. These fires have done an incalculable amount of injury to merchantable timber, young growth, even the soil, and frequently to other property such as cottages, residences, barns, fences, farm crops and such like.

Formerly the damage was not thoroughly realized, particularly in the far rural regions, and where timber was supposed to be abundant. But a change has come over the dreams of the people, for with the spread of education and with the increasing scarcity of timber there has come some realization of the enormous amount of the loss annually by forest fires. It has been figured out that last year Virginia lost something more than a half million dollars by forest fires, and it is probable that this year's losses will come near to doubling that amount. It is to say it is to be taken into consideration the remarkable dry spell in the fall, and the fact that months up to the present time, and the many reports of forest fires that have thus far come to hand.

There has come a widespread determination among the people of Virginia that this senseless destruction shall cease, and in place of the former feeling of helplessness, there has come a realization that Virginia timber can be protected just as well as that of some of the Northern and Western States, where every efficient State fire protective system are now being put in force at very trifling cost as compared with the value of the timber that is protected.

One Southern State, Maryland, has adopted a forest fire protection system, which for several years past it has found pay for itself. The neighboring States of Kentucky and West Virginia have adopted the Maryland plan, and now it is said that North Carolina has dropped into line. Last it about time Virginia was getting into the same line. A very effective burning system now being through the co-operation of the Federal Government, the State Government, or the county governments or even the timber land owners, but it would be better if the State Government to put with the national government.

### WHAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IS DOING

On this subject, R. C. Jones, the State Forester, whose office is in Charlottesville, has the following to say:

The Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture is helping the States to protect themselves against fire by providing a certain amount of money to be spent in paying salaries to forest wardens and well-to-do men. This money was appropriated under the Weeks law, and can be spent only where the States themselves are making an organized effort to prevent forest fires. The State of Virginia is now able to take advantage of this offer of the Federal Government, and through an agreement between the Secretary of Agriculture at Washington and the State Forester at Charlottesville, the sum of \$2,000 per year has been allotted to the State of Virginia to be spent for fire prevention under the direction of the State Forester. While the Legislature of Virginia at the time it made provision for the establishment of the Forest Service, in creating the office of State Forester and providing for the appointment of State forest wardens unfortunately failed to make an appropriation to put the plan into effect, the work has been started by the use of the money put at the disposal of the State Forester by the University of Virginia for general educational work throughout the State. Thus there is \$2,000 per year from the Federal Government now available for fire protection in Virginia, which is undoubtedly being expended as soon as the State itself appropriates a larger amount.

This sum, \$2,000, is evidently too small to cover the cost thoroughly, hence it has been decided that it should be used only in localities where there is enough local interest in the protection to make either the county authorities or the timber land owners willing to contribute to the cost of the work. The plan is to have the State Forester, in the money being spent where it is the most needed and where it will do the most good.

County supervisors now have legal authority to appropriate money for purposes of fire protection. This may take the form of paying for the service of forest wardens and men employed by them for the time actually in fighting the fire, or it may take the form of giving a salary to the warden. The former method is being adopted in nearly all States which have fire protective systems, and it is evidently essential to a thoroughly efficient system, and will undoubtedly be in use in most or all of the counties of Virginia within a few years, but in the meantime a beginning should be made by the employment of patrolmen. Such men work on a monthly basis only during the danger season, particularly in the spring and fall, and usually about four months per year, depending upon the dryness of the season. If the county authorities will pay the salaries of such patrolmen for one-half of their time, then the county can pay the other half of their time by the United States Government, and an offer to this effect is made to the county authorities by the State Forester as long as the government money holds out.

In sections where large bodies of timber land are owned by individuals or corporations, the assistance of the State and Government is extended to such owners in the same way as to the county supervisors. Another plan, which is already in force in Southwest Virginia, is as follows: The State Forester appoints patrolmen, who are paid entirely by the Federal Government, and given districts including the holdings of the land owners, who, as a condition of land ownership, who co-operate by preparing for each fire season by constructing in advance thereof such permanent improvements as may be most needed to make the work more effective, such as fire lines, trails, look-out stations, etc. The sum to be spent on such work must equal at least two months' salaries for the patrolmen for each fire season.

### CHESTERFIELD FIRST FOR PROTECTION FROM FIRES

Forest Fires May No Longer Alarm the People—County and County

Act Together.

MIDDLETON, VA., December 4.—Forest fires have done a deal of damage in these parts within the past

two or three years, but there will probably be a stop put to this kind of thing. Chesterfield is the first county in the State to accept the offer of the State Forester of financial assistance from the government in fire-protection measures. On November 22 the Board of Supervisors voted \$150 to be used in Chesterfield County in 1916 in paying one-half the salary of a forest patrolman during the four driest months next year, the other half to be paid by the United States Government. This is the first step in the building up of a thorough forest fire protective system by co-operation between the United States Department of Agriculture, the State Forester and the county supervisors. The patrolman is expected to accomplish a great deal of good, and at a trifling expense, compared to the value of the timber, young growth, fences, etc., saved from destruction by fire.

The patrolman will be required to provide his own horse and buggy, and it will be his first duty to drive all over his county, talking with everybody about the forest fire question, showing them the danger of carelessness with fire. Many forest fires are due to nothing but thoughtlessness on the part of people who would not willingly injure a neighbor, and such people only need to have the matter brought to their attention. And those people who do care with fire, because they know what happens as long as it does not happen to them, are much more apt to act like decent citizens if they know that there is an officer on the job, whose duty it is to investigate the cause of every forest fire, without fear or favor, and to attempt to secure the conviction of the guilty party, the doing of which will be paid for by the State. The patrolman will also take charge of any fire in a forest fire that he finds, trying to get it out with as little damage as possible, although, of course, one man trying to get a hole county cannot be expected to fight on the spot where a fire breaks out. The patrolman will not be an outsider, but a resident of the county, familiar with fire fighting, the roads and trails, and widely acquainted in the county. He will be appointed by the State Forester on the recommendation of the county supervisors and other people directly interested in the matter. He will be paid for his services for the whole time during the four driest months in the year, probably two or three months in the spring and one or two months in the fall. The experience with the State Forester, which has adopted fire protection systems, which can be secured for this work, because the position is an honorable one, and they have the money to pay for it, making their community a better place to live in.

**\$2,000 PER YEAR NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT**

There is now available \$2,000 per year from the United States Government for this work. This makes possible the employment of one patrolman in each of thirty counties for five months per year. The Government has offered, however, to spend \$4,500 per year in Virginia in this work if the State Government will provide an equal sum for fire protection purposes.

Any one wishing an allotment for a patrolman in his county should take the matter up at once with the State Forester at Charlottesville, Va., who has a pamphlet for free distribution describing the plan.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BOYS WHO ARE TO LEARN FARMING

Bankers' Association Proposes to Help the Boys of Corn Clubs Who Help Themselves.

The Virginia Bankers' Association has offered \$15 each to twenty boys who are members of Virginia corn clubs to help pay their expenses in the agricultural short course at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute this winter. The association has a committee on agricultural development and education, and the offer is made through the State Forester at Charlottesville, Va., who is giving full information about the course. The 1916 session of the winter course will begin at the agricultural college of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute February 1 and continuing through the month of April. The course is open to all boys who are giving full information about the course may be had by addressing the president of the college, or the dean of the agricultural department at Blacksburg.

The Bankers' association has heretofore shown considerable interest in the agricultural extension work, and many of the banks or individual bankers of the State have given prizes to the corn club boys. The association has girls' canning clubs in different sections of Virginia. Last year four banks at South Boston gave to the four boys in Halifax County who got the highest yield of corn on their acres the month's agricultural course at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, paying all expenses of these boys. It is a matter of vital importance to the agricultural interests of Virginia that the young men should be educated along lines of scientific farming, as well as taught something of the possibilities that lie before the boy who is content to stay on the farm and make a living out of the winter course is to teach the students that life on the farm has a pleasant as well as a practical side. Tuition in the course is free, and the only expenses are for board and laundry while in Blacksburg.

### LUMBERMEN HOPEFUL

Fredericksburg Feels Good Effect of Better Times in the Timber Trade as It Is.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., December 4.—Lumber dealers, sawmill owners and all who handle lumber, feel greatly encouraged by the advance in lumber prices and activity in the market. Lumber trade has been slow for two years, but recently all grades of lumber have advanced and the demand in this section is brisk. At some points it is difficult to secure cars for making shipments. Dealers are loading cars here daily and sending off shipments to the markets. It puts money into circulation and helps to make business good.

**Farmers in Lynchburg.**

LYNCHBURG, VA., December 4.—The members of the Virginia Farmers' Co-operative and Educational Union will meet here during the coming week and it is expected that upward of 500 farmers from all sections of the State will be in attendance. The sections are to be held at the auditorium of the Virginia Hotel.

**Sales Small in Lynchburg.**

LYNCHBURG, VA., December 4.—Sales of leaf tobacco for the time of the year, which is due to the want of a season for handling tobacco. All grades of tobacco are selling well, and if tobacco could be gotten ready for market sales would be larger.

The better grades of tobacco were decidedly stronger this week, making the general average price the highest of the season.

All who can do so are urged to market their tobacco at once, as anything at all desirable is bringing a satisfactory price. The demand for good leaf is especially stronger.

**South Boston's Big Figures.**

SOUTH BOSTON, VA., December 4.—A summary of the sales of leaf tobacco in this market for the month of November, together with comparisons of last year's figures, are here given:

Sold in November, 1915, 4,229,376 pounds, average, \$19.16; amount, \$80,917.61.

Sold in November, 1914, 3,912,213 pounds, average, \$18.66; amount, \$72,888.69.

Total sales to December 1, 1915, 7,528,888 pounds, average, \$20.75; amount, \$156,099.90.

Total sales to December 1, 1914, 5,262,287 pounds, average, \$19.16; amount, \$100,878.82.

Gain for 1915, 2,266,601 pounds; amount, \$155,221.08.

It is worthy of note, in making a comparison of 1914 and 1915 prices, that

the average price for the month of November, 1915, was \$19.16, as compared with \$18.66 for the same month last year.

Bank clearings for November were \$62,736,390, which was an increase over October of \$11,195,225 and over September of \$26,482,642. Clearings for the week were \$13,475,725.

**Old Dominion Industrial Corporation.**

West Point, Virginia

All that its name implies. Doing things for West Point and all of Virginia.

DO YOU WANT PAVING LAND? Write for booklet and general literature to the OLD DOMINION INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION, West Point, Va. (Port Richmond).

**Abnormalities Must Pass; War Must Close;**

NATURAL RESOURCES ABIDE; FOODSTUFF ADVANCING; FARM LANDS MUST ENHANCE AND PROSPERITY'S TIDE IS BACK TO THE FARM.

Send for our catalogue of Farms and Timbers.

**Virginian-Seaboard Realty Co.,** ALBERTA, VA.

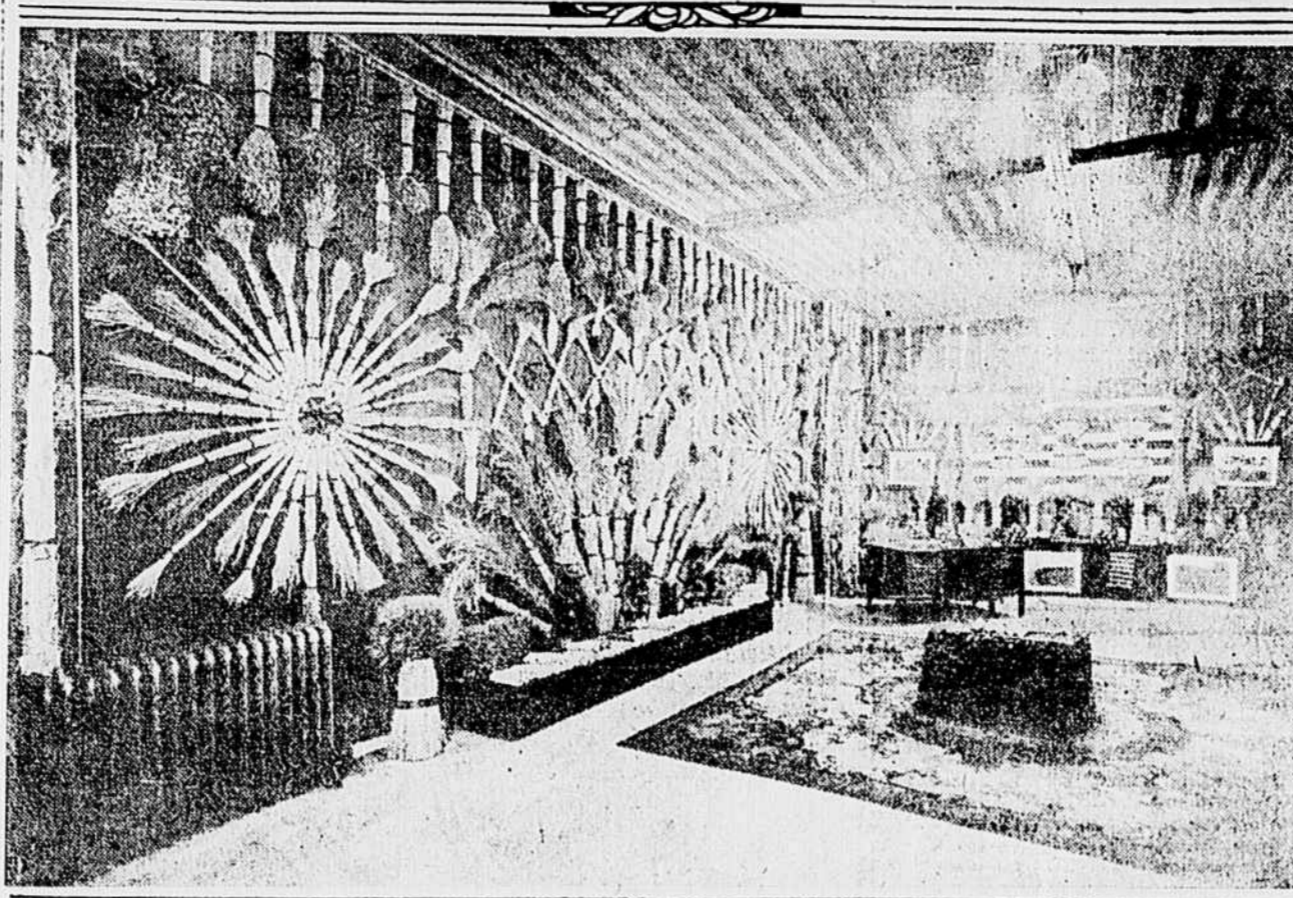
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## Handsome Virginia Exhibit in Milwaukee



The Virginia exhibit shown in Milwaukee by agents of the industrial department of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company continues to attract attention, and at the request of authorities of that city Mr. Jehune, the agent in charge, has consented to hold it over for a week longer.

The exhibit is understood to be a replica of the Virginia display, or at least a part of it, that attracted so much attention at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco. It has gotten very many people more interested in Virginia than they ever were before. It certainly shows how good things may be grown in a temperate climate that are impossible in the more intense winter climate of the far Northwest. The exhibit will be in Milwaukee for more than a week yet.

### SELLING LEAF TOBACCO IN THE LEADING MARKETS

More Animation and Better Prices for the Leaf Being Offered Everywhere. Lifting of Embargo Helps.

The raising of the embargo on leaf tobacco bound towards Germany and Austria has helped things in all of the Virginia and North Carolina markets. There was more animation the past week, and figures on all grades were enlarged somewhat. The real winter weather, that was preventive of large receipts of the weed on the various markets, but receipts down below what might have been a good average.

From this cause the Richmond market suffered especially. The receipts here were very small, aggregating but a little more than 200,000 pounds for all of the week. These receipts consisted entirely of the so-called kinds, little or none of the heavy, dark shipping goods as yet showing up. The market was very active, and the books of the merchants show that prices were better than they have been at any time heretofore.

The reports from the other markets of Virginia and North Carolina speak for themselves. They will be found below.

**Full Sales at Danville.**

DANVILLE, VA., December 4.—The sales have been full all the week, but not blocked. The offerings have been in good condition, and the quality about an average of the crop.

There is only a moderate demand for medium to fine fillers, of which this crop affords a large proportion of very superior quality. Cigarette cutters have been very freely bought by the several large manufacturers at stiffer prices.

Export shipments are very active, but engagements for ocean freights are very difficult to make.

There is only a moderate demand for redried tobacco for domestic purposes.

The sale of leaf tobacco on this market for the 1915 crop to December 1 foot up 1,658,533 pounds, at an average of \$6.60. This shows an increase over last year of \$58,926 pounds in the quantity for the corresponding period, but a decrease of \$123 in the average price.

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## VIEWERS AND NEAR VIEWS: HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Due largely to One Man.  
The great Panama-Pacific Exposition has closed for good, and from all accounts has left a good impression on the record. Virginia did mighty well at the great exposition, and it is due in a large measure to one man that it did, that is to say one man and his sons, James Bellwood and his two boys, of Chesterfield County.

How the Peoples Learned Things.  
The Bellwoods had a little exhibit of their own in Frisco, of which exhibit the Industrial Section of The Times-Dispatch has already had much to say. It could say a great deal more. The Bellwoods kept a register at their big exhibit, and thousands of people who came to see the exhibit left in their own handwriting what they thought of it. People from every State in the Union and from every country in the world, had something to say on this register. And what they had to say leaves the impression on the mind of the average Virginian that they learned and saw of the great exhibition, the more about Virginia and its great agricultural and industrial development than they had ever dreamed of before.

Left Their Mark on the Register.  
The Industrial Editor has had a little peep at this register, and he could tell several columns with its contents, but just a line or two will do for the present. A good woman from Iowa wrote: "I never knew before what a great State was the old mother of us all. Surely we cannot raise in Iowa so many good things as I have this year seen in this remarkable exhibit from just one Virginia farm. A Missourian wrote: 'I have dreamed of Virginia, but to-day I have seen the real thing as I had thought was merely a dream. Truly Virginia is a grower that beat us in Missouri. I am a Missourian but I have seen you know. The Bellwoods showed this one.'

What Luther Burbank Thought of It.  
Young Mr. Bellwood writes his brother from Frisco as follows: "Mr. Luther Burbank of whom you have introduced to me. He had been expecting our exhibit before, when I was too busy to talk to him about it, and he said: 'I have been observing and studying corn for these many years, and I find the best in the United States. I am sure I have found it. That corn you are exhibiting here from Old Virginia is the best I ever saw in my life. There is nothing like it. Every reader of The Times-Dispatch knows that Luther Burbank is authority on the subject he discussed with Mr. Bellwood.'

The Big Hint in All.  
Now the hint and suggestion in all of this comes in the postscript. Mr. Bellwood writes his father and his brother that many people who saw and heard of the Virginia exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition are going to journey to Virginia to look at the lands and find out why they are so productive and yet so cheap. Between a thousand people who saw the Virginia exhibits away yonder on the Pacific Coast, are going to be here with them just as the Bellwoods have done just over here in Chesterfield County. The hint and the suggestion are too palpable to need further explanation.

IS NOW A CERTAINTY  
The Kingsport Dye stuff Company No Longer a Matter of Guesswork.

BRISTOL, VA., December 4.—The much-talked-of big company that is to make dye stuffs at Kingsport, Tenn., is no longer talk, but a fact. Information reaches here that the company has been duly organized under the name of the Federal Dye stuff and Chemical Company, and that the company has been duly chartered under the laws of the State of Delaware with a capital stock of \$15,000,000. The officers are: chairman of directors, A. B. du Pont, of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Del.; vice-presidents, John C. Heiden, the company's chemical engineer, and formerly with the Cassella Color Company, distributor of German dye stuffs, and Walter A. Guile, Jr., treasurer, Allison M. Archer, of White & Co. of New York. The company's Eastern offices are at 30 Pine Street, New York.

At Kingsport the company has a 200-acre site, and has begun the construction of buildings, the first unit being 750 feet square, which will contain machinery for manufacturing sulphur black to dye cotton cloth, picric acid, sulphuric acid, benzol, etc. It is stated that an order has been received for 100,000 pounds of sulphur black, and that offers have been made for other products to consume the capacity of the plant for the next three years. The output of picric acid during 1916 is proposed to be 18,000 tons, and it is reported that a foreign government is negotiating for this entire capacity.

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Must be plainly written, giving name and address of writer, and must be in our office, 603 West Main Street, not later than December 16, 1915.

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